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COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH

REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

1965



The Report of the Port Medical Officer

PORT OF GREAT YARMOUTH

INTRODUCTION.

This report is compiled in accordance with the revised form and sequence suggested by the Ministry of Health in Circular 33/52. Additional information required in this quinquennial report is set out in Sections V, VIII, XIV, XV and XVI.

Section I — STAFF

TABLE A.

Name of Officer	Nature of appointment	Date of appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
K. J. GRANT	Port Medical Officer	1.6.48	M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health, County Borough of Great Yarmouth.
R. G. NEWBERRY	Deputy Port Medical Officer	1.6.60	M.B., B.S. D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health, County Borough of Great Yarmouth.
F. T. PORTER	Port Health Inspector	3.3.64	Cert. S.I.E.J.B. and Inspector of Meat and Other Foods	Chief Public Health Inspector, County Borough of Great Yarmouth.
R. S. R. COLEMAN	Deputy Port Health Inspector	10.6.64	Cert. S.I.E.J.B. and Inspector of Meat and Other Foods	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, County Borough of Great Yarmouth.

Section II — AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

The following table relates to the year ended 24th March 1965 as figures for ships and tonnage for the calendar year are not available from the Port and Haven Commissioners.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Net Registered Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships re- ported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the M.O.H.	By the Inspectors	
Foreign Ports	1478	350150	—	153	—
Coastwise	1335	382024	—	30	—
Total	2813	732174	—	183	—

Section III — CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

No passenger boats used the port during the year but a number of passengers entered and left the port in cargo boats. These boats carry only a small number of passengers at a time. Figures obtained from H.M. Customs show the amount of this traffic during the year.

	Passengers Arriving in the Port	Passengers Leaving the Port
January	17	8
February	16	6
March	20	19
April	81	73
May	30	15
June	84	48
July	163	79
August	249	130
September	263	154
October	291	188
November	146	124
December	137	77
Total	1497	921

CARGO TRAFFIC.

There was a further increase in cargo traffic entering the port during the year, the number of ships exceeding the figure for last year by 604. A part of this increase derived from the off-shore drilling operations in the North Sea search for oil and gas. Seventeen firms acquired sites in the town which are used for the storage of muds, cements, tools, well casings and foods supplied to the oil rigs. Six supply ships were based at Great Yarmouth and ships from other ports also collect supplies for the oil trade from this port.

A greater number of cattle and sheep were exported from this port during the year.

The following table is compiled from information supplied by the Port and Haven Commissioners for the year ended 24th March 1965, and relates to cargo handled at the port whether as imports or exports as separate figures are not available.

Cattle, Sheep, Ponies, etc.	56,968 Head
Coal	193,263 Tons
Fruit and Vegetables	39,356 „
Groceries	9,345 „
Grain and Seeds	224,425 Qtrs.
Manures	30,112 Tons
Meal, etc.	35,156 „
Metals, Scrap Iron, etc.	87,457 „
Paper, Strawboards, Woodpulp, etc.	45,670 „
Petrol, Paraffin, Fuel Oil, etc.	482,354 „
Salt	3,319 „
Stone, Broken Granite, etc.	1,050 „
Wood	91,995 Loads
Herrings (cured)	491 Tons
Herring (uncured)	19,203 Crans

PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE.

Belgium—Antwerp.

Denmark—Fredricksund, Copenhagen.

East Germany—Rostock, Wismar, Stralsund.

West Germany—Hamburg, Bremen.

Finland—Kotka, Abo, Kemi.

Holland—Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Scheveningen, Maisluys.

Norway—Christiansund, Oslo, Trondheim.

Sweden—Kalmar, Gothenburg, Larvik.

Poland—Stettin.

Section IV — INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There was no inland barge traffic during the year.

Section V — WATER SUPPLY

1. SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR THE DISTRICT AND SHIPPING.

The water for the port and shipping is supplied direct from the mains of the East Anglian Water Company, which also supplies the town. The supply is continuous and adequate for all purposes.

2. REPORTS OF TESTS FOR CONTAMINATION.

Samples of the water supply are regularly submitted for examination, and the results show it to be of consistently good quality.

3. PRECAUTIONS TAKEN AGAINST CONTAMINATION OF HYDRANTS AND HOSEPIPES.

Hydrants are available for practically the whole length of the port, and the hoses provided by the water company to supply ships are thoroughly flushed before use.

4. NUMBER AND SANITARY CONDITION OF WATER BOATS, AND POWERS OF CONTROL BY THE AUTHORITY.

There are no water boats operating in the port.

Section VI — PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952 - 1961

1. LIST OF INFECTED AREAS.

Information regarding ports in Europe and on the Mediterranean coast is extracted from the World Health Organisation's weekly list, and a copy of this information is forwarded by post to the Waterguard Office of the local Custom House.

2. RADIO MESSAGES.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district—Although Great Yarmouth is not a radio transmitting port, radio messages can be sent to ships through the Humber or North Foreland transmitting stations.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon—Arrangements for the receipt of radio messages are the same as for those for transmission. The telegraphic address is Portelth, Great Yarmouth.

3. NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO.

Messages are received by telephone from H.M. Inspector of Customs and Excise.

4. MOORING STATIONS.

(a) Within the docks—A berth will be made available, its situation being subject to conditions prevailing in the harbour at the time.

(b) Outside the docks—Yarmouth Roads anchorage.

5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR :—

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than Smallpox—see Section VII).—Accommodation for infectious diseases other than smallpox is available at the Estcourt Hospital, Great Yarmouth.

(b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts—The surveillance and follow-up of contacts would be undertaken by the Port Health Inspector under the direction of the Port Medical Officer.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.—In case of infectious disease, disinfection is carried out by the staff of the local authority. Persons are cleansed and clothing and other articles are disinfected as required under arrangements made by the local authority at the Northgate Hospital.

Section VII — SMALLPOX

(1) Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board, smallpox cases would be admitted to Ipswich Smallpox Hospital.

(2) It has been agreed that Ipswich Ambulance Service would undertake responsibility for all arrangements for transport of smallpox cases to hospital. Applications for transport would be sent to the Resident Medical Officer, St. Helen's Hospital, Ipswich (Telephone number Ipswich 77211). The Ipswich Authority is responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Smallpox consultants available :—

Dr. W. A. Oliver, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.

(4) Specimens for laboratory examination would be sent to the Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, The Hyde, London, N.W.9.

Section VIII — VENEREAL DISEASE

Great Yarmouth V.D. Clinic is situated in Churchill Road, and sessions at which merchant seamen can attend are held as follows :—

Mondays—9.30 a.m. - 12 noon.

Wednesdays—2.30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

In-patient treatment when required would be carried out under the arrangements of the Regional Hospital Board.

Masters of vessels are asked to report any cases of venereal disease among the crew, and advice is given as to when and where treatment may be obtained. Information slips regarding the clinic are issued to masters and ships' agents.

Section IX — CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SHIPS

TABLE D. — Nil.

Section X — OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No cases of malaria occurred in ships entering the port.

Section XI — MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No ships infected with or suspected for plague arrived at the port.

Section XII — MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

(1) Port Health Inspectors carry out routine inspections of ships arriving from foreign ports and the deratting certificate is checked at the time of the inspection. If any evidence of rodent infestation is found, a more detailed inspection is carried out.

(2) When required, bacteriological and pathological examinations of rodents are carried out on behalf of the authority by the Public Health Laboratory, Norwich. No rodents were sent for examination during the year.

(3) Great Yarmouth is not an "approved port" for "deratting" but when any action is required, trapping and poisoning is carried out by the staff of the local authority.

(4) Efforts are made to secure the efficient rat-proofing of ships, and particular attention is paid to foodstores, storerooms, etc.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year :—

Category	Number			Total
	In ships from for- eign ports	In coastwise ships and fish- ing vessels	In docks, quays, wharfs and warehouses	
Black rats	—	—	—	—
Brown rats	—	10	196	206
Species not known	—	—	—	—
Sent for examination	—	—	—	—
Infected with plague	—	—	—	—

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports :—

These certificates cannot be issued as Great Yarmouth is not an “approved port”.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951.

One rodent control certificate was issued under Article 3(2)(b) of the Order.

These certificates are issued to coastwise vessels and are valid for four months from date of issue. The certificate states that the ship has been inspected and was free from rats and mice at the time of the inspection.

Section XIII — INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices :—

Nature and number of inspections		Notices served		Result of serving notices
		Statutory notices	*Other notices	
British ships	31	—	7	5 complied with
Foreign ships	152	—	10	8 complied with
British fishing vessels	—	—	—	—
Total	183	—	17	13 complied with

* Including oral notices

Section XIV — PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948.

There are no shell-fish beds within the port.

Section XV — MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Great Yarmouth is not an approved port for the landing of aliens.

Section XVI — MISCELLANEOUS

Should a death occur on board ship in the port, the body would be removed to the mortuary and arrangements for interment made according to circumstances.

FOOD INSPECTION PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937-1948

Various foods including canned meats, canned fruits, canned milk, lard, cheese, biscuits, margarine and dried milk regularly arrived from Holland and Belgium. Almost daily arrivals of fresh fruit and vegetables from Holland continued throughout the year. These foods were the subject of regular routine inspections by Public Health Inspectors and it was found that these imports were generally of high quality. An extremely small proportion of this food was surrendered as unfit and this was dealt with by disposal within the Corporation refuse tip.

Number of inspections of consignments of imported food : 217.

Samples of Imported Foods were taken during the year and submitted to Dr. E. C. Wood the Public Analyst. The following table shows the number of samples obtained together with results of analysis.

No. submitted		Result of Analysis
Canned cooked whole chicken	1	Genuine.
Canned ox tongue	1	Genuine.
Canned chopped ham and pork	1	Unsatisfactory.
Tinned carrots	1	Unsatisfactory.
Gouda cheese	1	Genuine.
Lard	1	Genuine.
Canned luncheon meat	1	Genuine.
Canned chopped ham	1	Genuine.
Fresh tomatoes	2	Genuine. Free from pesticide residues.
Fresh cucumber	3	Genuine. Free from pesticide residues.
Fresh melon	1	Genuine. Free from pesticide residues.
Fresh raspberries	2	Genuine. Free from pesticide residues.

Fresh Italian pears	1	Genuine. Free from pesticide residues.
South African oranges	1	Genuine. Less than 1 p.p.m. Malathion residue.
Fresh Dutch lettuces	2	Genuine. 0.2 p.p.m. Organo Chlorine pesticide residue.

Unsatisfactory Samples :

Canned chopped ham and pork—Labelling offence and low meat content. Correspondence with manufacturers who decided to discontinue line.

Tinned carrots—Labelling offence. Correspondence with importers and manufacturers resulted in the necessary alterations being made to label.



